

More than 5 million of our fellow Americans get a below-poverty-level check from Social Security after having paid in all their lives to the number one insurance program in the country, the number one anti-poverty program for the elderly, and the number one anti-poverty program for children. Help is on the way.

Social Security 2100, a sacred trust, as the President called it, is a bill that will uplift and raise people out of the depths of poverty and provide them with the sustenance they need in their daily lives, as Roosevelt intended.

RUSSIA'S ASSAULT ON UKRAINE

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in strong support of the people of Ukraine and against the thuggish, criminal, and careless actions of the Russian military and President Putin.

Last week's invasion of Ukraine by Russia was planned and premeditated. It was, and still is, a blatant act of war and cannot be tolerated by the international community. Putin's actions have been those of a desperate politician creating chaos in neighboring countries due to low popularity at home.

As we have seen on the news and social media, the Russian military is making no distinction between military and civilian, launching missiles blindly into Ukrainian cities and towns.

With their backs against the wall, the people of Ukraine have shown the world that they will fight to defend their friends, family, homes, and country. We must support them and the democratically-elected Ukrainian Government.

The current sanctions that the administration has levied against Russia, Putin, and his cronies are welcome, but we clearly need to go further. We must aggressively hurt the Russian economy by cutting off their energy exports and halt the purchasing of Russian gas and oil by the United States. We should also unleash American energy, including biofuels, natural gas, and wind, to help our allies move away from Russian energy reliance.

Mr. Speaker, to the people of Ukraine, we are with you today, tomorrow, and always.

□ 1215

INVESTMENTS IN INFRASTRUCTURE

(Mr. CARTWRIGHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, as we heard last night in the President's State of the Union, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is a once-in-a-

lifetime investment in our Nation's economic foundation and our Nation's competitiveness.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act makes it possible for us to invest in passenger rail expansion and restoration; rebuild our roads, our bridges, our water systems, and our sewer systems; reclaim abandoned mine lands and reduce pollution; and so much more. It is the solution to improving our competitiveness on the world stage and recovering from the devastating COVID-19 pandemic.

After years of talking about passing an infrastructure bill and week after week of infrastructure weeks, we have finally done it. We will begin seeing the benefits quite soon.

Thank God for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

HONORING HUNTINGTON BEACH POLICE OFFICER NICHOLAS VELLA

(Mrs. STEEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Huntington Beach Police Officer Nicholas Vella who was tragically killed in a crash while responding to a call in Newport Beach on February 19.

Officer Vella served as a law enforcement officer for 18 years and spent 14 years with the Huntington Beach Police Department. He dedicated his life to protecting our community. My heart goes out to his wife and daughter, the Huntington Beach Police Department, and all who loved and knew Officer Vella.

I am so thankful every day for our brave law enforcement officers. They put their lives on the line for us, and I am so grateful for their service and sacrifice. I want to thank their families, too, because their sacrifice does not go unnoticed.

I will be praying for Officer Vella and his family.

SUPPLY CHAINS

(Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the bipartisan supply chain subtitle found in the House-passed America COMPETES Act.

We have all heard from our constituents over the last several months about the impact that inflation has had on households and businesses. We also know that a key reason for rising prices on critical goods is our supply chain instability. The supply chain subtitle in the America COMPETES Act will strengthen our supply chains and ultimately tackle a root cause of inflation.

It is vital that this subtitle is preserved through the negotiations of the America COMPETES Act as we build a

better America. This is about creating good-paying union jobs, protecting our national security, and, ultimately, protecting the pocketbooks of the American people. Let's get it done.

ACKNOWLEDGING PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT ERIC BARRON

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the distinguished career of Penn State University President Eric Barron.

President Barron assumed office in 2014 after leaving his post as president at the Florida State University. But his service to the university began when Dr. Barron served as dean of the College of Earth and Minerals Sciences and founding director of the Earth System Science Center in Penn State.

In his tenure as president of Penn State University, President Barron elevated Penn State as a leader in higher education. President Barron has also worked to support State funding, increase access and affordability to students through scholarship programs, and prepare students graduating from Penn State for success after college.

In my time working with President Barron, he has always made it a point to meet with the Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation regularly and share Penn State's vision, work, and culture. He took the time to build meaningful relationships which ultimately benefited the university and the Commonwealth as a whole. I am happy to call him my friend and wish him well in his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, Penn State remains one of the top institutions in the country in part because of the work of President Barron. He leaves a great legacy behind.

I thank President Barron for his service, and I wish him joy in his retirement.

WOMEN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE

(Mr. RYAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I am frustrated. We have heard a lot this week about cutting workers in on the deal and how we meet the challenges that this Nation is facing.

Every piece of the game plan—whether it is helping take on China; how do we bring jobs back to places like Ohio; how do we increase union membership by making it easier to join a union; how do we bring down costs; and how do we cut taxes for workers in the midst of all of this inflation—every one of those bills has gone to the Senate and either died or is on life support.

Here is one example of just how broken this is: Last year, we made history